

[3 August, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

**National Science Body**

1515. PROF. (SHRIMATI) BHARATI RAY: Will the Minister of SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian talent in science and technology can make India a much developed country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) has sought a national science body having its centres in every taluk and major villages, to nurture a creative environment for bright youngsters; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT): (a) Indian talent in science and technology has great potential to make the country a developed nation. India has exceptionally strong talent in various fields of S&T ranging from Basic Sciences, to Technology development in strategic fields like Atomic Energy, Space Research, Defence, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Medicine, and Information Technology among others, which could make India a developed nation in the near future. Recognising this, Government has prepared a Technology Vision 2020 in various key areas required for nation building.

(b) and (c) The Central Vigilance Commissioner Shri N. Vittal, in his personal capacity has delivered a lecture "India and Technology" on the eve of National Technology Day on 11-05-2001 where, a suggestion has been made for setting up of Nation wide Community Science Centres at grass-root level practically in every talukas and major villages for improvement and development of technology. Government have taken note of this.